

REMARKS

Claims 1-36 and 42-55 were previously cancelled. Claims 37-41 have been indicated as allowed. New claims 56-59 are presented for examination. New claim 56 recites "an isolated polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:107 or an immunogenic fragment thereof, wherein the immunogenic fragment of SEQ ID NO:107 is at least 9 amino acids in length." This language finds support in the specification as originally filed, *e.g.*, on page 27, line 10, where an immunogenic peptide of at least 9 amino acids is described for use to induce an immune reaction specific to *M. tuberculosis*. New claims 57-59 are added to recite fusion proteins and compositions, which are fully supported by the specification as originally filed, and is supported in particular by claims 38-40. No new matter is introduced by the present amendment.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 925-472-5000.

Respectfully submitted,



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